

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

Filed: August 4, 2020

* * * * *

VALERIE SILVER, *Parent of R.S.*, *

a minor, *

Petitioner, *

v. *

SECRETARY OF HEALTH *

AND HUMAN SERVICES, *

Respondent. *

* * * * *

Andrew D. Downing, Van Cott & Talamante, PLLC, Phoenix, AZ, for Petitioner.

Christine Becer, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

No. 16-1019V

Special Master Sanders

Dismissal; Human Papillomavirus Vaccine
("HPV" or Gardasil); Adverse Reaction

DISMISSAL¹

On August 18, 2016, Valerie Silver ("Petitioner") filed a petition for compensation on behalf of her minor daughter, R.S., under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program ("Vaccine Program" or "Program"). 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 to 34 (2012). Petitioner alleged that R.S. suffered an adverse reaction to the human papillomavirus ("HPV" or Gardasil) vaccination she received on August 21, 2013. Pet. at 1, ECF No. 1.

On August 3, 2020, Petitioner filed an unopposed motion for a decision dismissing her petition. ECF No. 85. In her motion, Petitioner indicated "[she] has made the choice that she would like to opt out of the Vaccine Program in advance of the Court ruling on entitlement...[and] wishes to pursue a third-party action in district court against Merck directly." *Id.* at 2-3. She continued, "[t]his choice should not be viewed in any way that Petitioner does not believe in the merits of her claim or that R.S.'s injuries are not a result of Gardasil...[she] simply needs a judgment so that she may reject said judgment and submit her election to opt out." *Id.* at 3. Respondent had no objection to Petitioner's motion. *Id.*

¹ This Decision shall be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the Internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), a party has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information that satisfies the criteria in § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision. If, upon review, the I agree that the identified material fits within the requirements of that provision, such material will be deleted from public access.

To receive compensation under the Program, Petitioner must prove either (1) that she suffered a “Table Injury”—i.e., an injury falling within the Vaccine Injury Table—corresponding to the vaccination, or (2) that she suffered an injury that was actually caused by a vaccine. *See* §§ 13(a)(1)(A), 11(c)(1). An examination of the record did not uncover any evidence that Petitioner suffered a “Table Injury.” Further, a closer review of the record is not warranted in light of Petitioner’s motion for a decision dismissing her petition. Therefore, this case must be **dismissed**. **The Clerk shall enter judgment accordingly.**²

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Herbrina D. Sanders
Herbrina D. Sanders
Special Master

² Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment is expedited by the parties’ joint filing of a notice renouncing the right to seek review.